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HEALTH
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SOUTHWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR:-

1957

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SOUTHWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1957

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(at 31st December, 1957)

Chairman : Councillor A.W. LEWIS, J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor E.C. DAVIS

Chairman of the Council: Councillor W.G. FIELD, J.P.

Councillor: R.W. LEAN

" MRS. I.J. SWEET

" R.D. VOICE

" J.A. WHITE

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16 Buckingham Road,
Shoreham-by-Sea.
September, 1958.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for 1957.

During the year there were no spectacular happenings. The vital statistics show little variation from last year, or from the national figures. We must not lose sight, however, that we are dealing with relatively small numbers.

Slum Clearance and re-housing are the greatest public health problems facing us in this area and in this respect the Council has tackled the problem in an energetic and realistic manner, which does great credit to so small an authority. Much preparatory work has been done and next year will certainly see blocks of flats started, if not completed, on cleared slum sites.

Last year, I reported the formation of the Hove, Portslade and Southwick Joint Committee on atmospheric pollution. This committee decided to instal gauges for the measurement of grit and sulphur dioxide at the following sites:-

SOUTHWICK

Southwick Recreation Ground	1 Deposit gauge 1 SO_2 gauge
Cemetery, Southwick..	1 Deposit gauge 1 SO_2 gauge

HOVE

Roof of Brittany Court, New Church Road	1 Deposit gauge
Hove Museum,New Church Road	1 Deposit gauge
Hove Corporation Nursery,Lloyd Road..	1 Deposit gauge 1 SO_2 gauge

These sites were chosen with the help and advice of the Department of Industrial and Scientific Research. The results of the first year's observation were generally better than the average for the country and the results point to the fact that the domestic rather than the industrial chimney is the worst culprit. It is hoped that these investigations will continue.

The large number of elderly people in the district still bring their problems, particularly those who are bedridden and those living alone. The various authorities concered with the welfare of the aged, work in closest co-operation and I am confident that the best use is made of the existing facilities. This Council has done a great deal for the aged by providing special accommodation in the way of flats and bungalows and in ever readiness to help voluntary organisations. An example of the latter was in the help given to the West Sussex Housing Society when they were acquiring and equipping "Romans" a home for 21 able-bodied elderly. This home has been an unqualified success and is a tremendous asset to the district.

Towards the end of 1957 in common with the rest of the country, we had an epidemic of Asian Influenza. This epidemic which started in S.W. China in February 1957, spread right across the world in six months. The epidemic received a vast amount of publicity and consequently more alarm than the severity of the epidemic would justify.

I wish to thank the Chairman and the Committee members for their unfailing support which has made my task considerably easier and Mr. T.A. Eardley for his co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant

T.H. HARRISON.

Medical Officer of Health.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Public Health & Housing Committee,
Southwick Urban District Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health.

T. H. HARRISON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.T.M & H. part-time with other districts in the County. Also Port Medical Officer to the New Shoreham Port Health Authority, Assistant County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer to the West Sussex County Council

Public Health Inspector.

T.A. EARDLEY, M.S.I.A., Certificate of the Royal Society of Health and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.
Certificate of the Royal Society of Health for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

Duties: General duties of Sanitary Inspectors as laid down in the Sanitary Officers' Order, including inspection of meat and other foods.

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health.

MISS D. SANGER.

Rodent Operator (part-time)

B. R. ROBERTS.

SECTION I

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Southwick is a small urban area on the South coast, situated four miles west of Brighton.

The eastern arm of Shoreham Harbour, known locally as "The Canal", forms the southern boundary of the district. On the strip of land south of the Canal are situated the Electricity Works of the British Electricity Authority and the works of the South-Eastern Gas Board. The sheltered water of the Canal is used as a harbour by private yachts.

The chief industries in the town are electricity production, dyeing, sheet metal work and lingerie manufacturing.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	1,127
Registrar General's estimate of resident Population (mid-year 1957)	11,410
Population (Census, 1951)	10,718
Rateable Value	£184,321
Sum represented by a penny rate	£732
No. of inhabited houses at the end of 1957 according to Rate Book	4,082

VITAL STATISTICS

	M.	F.	Total
Live Births - Legitimate	73	65	138
" - Illegitimate	3	6	9
	76	71	147

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	12.88
Corrected Birth Rate	14.55

	M.	F.	Total
Still Birth - Legitimate	2	1	3
" - Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still Birth rate per 1,000 (live and still) births: 20

DEATHS

Males - 73 Females - 66 Total 139

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population:.. 12.2

Corrected Death Rate .. .. 10.2.

Chief causes of death in order of frequency were:

(i) Diseases of heart and circulatory system
(ii) Cancer

The above causes accounted for 98 or 70.5% of the total death recorded during the year.

Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion .. Nil

Number of deaths of Infants under one year of age:-

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	3	3	6
Illegitimate	-	2	2

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:

All infants per 1,000 live births	54.4
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	43.5
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	222

Net deaths from causes at various ages under one year

	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Staphylococcal pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Prematurity	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pulmonary oedema	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Congenital heart disease	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Atelectasis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Virus encephalitis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Neonatal Asphyxia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS, 1957

	England & Wales	West Sussex Urban	West Sussex Rural	Southwick U.D.
Birth Rate	16.1	15.02	13.19	12.9
Death Rate	11.5	13.37	12.08	12.2
Infantile Death Rate	23	20	18	54.4
Pulmonary T.B. Death Rate	0.09	0.06	0.10	.18
Cancer Death Rate	2.09	2.7	2.1	2.8
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births	0.47	0.29	Nil	Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH IN SOUTHWICK URBAN DISTRICT

		Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-
6.	Meningococcal Infection	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach.. ..	1	-
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	-
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-
14.	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	7	9
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-
16.	Diabetes	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	7
18.	Coronary disease, angina	9	4
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ..	-	2
20.	Other heart disease	11	17
21.	Other circulatory disease	5	2
22.	Influenza	1	-
23.	Pneumonia	5	2
24.	Bronchitis	-	-
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	2	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	-	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	1
31.	Congenital malformations	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	6
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
34.	All other accidents	1	1
35.	Suicide	1	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war ..	-	-
	TOTAL CAUSES:	59	54

SECTION II

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF DISEASES

The following infectious diseases are notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health:

Cholera
Diphtheria
Dysentery
Encephalitis (Acute)
Enteric (Typhoid or Raratyphoid) Fever
Erysipelas
Malaria
Measles
Meningococcal Infection
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Plague
Pneumonia (Primary or Influenza)
Poliomyelitis (Acute)
Puerperal Pyrexia
Relapsing Fever
Scarlet Fever
Smallpox
Tuberculosis (All forms)
Typhus
Whooping Cough
Food Poisoning or Suspected Food Poisoning

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TUBERCULOSIS - NEW CASES AND MORTALITY. 1957

Age Periods		PULMONARY M.	PULMONARY F.		PULMONARY M.	PULMONARY F.
Under 1 year.	NEW CASES	-	-	DEATHS	-	-
1 - 4 ..		-	-		-	-
5 - 14 ..		-	-		-	-
15 - 24 ..		1	-		-	-
25 - 34 ..		-	-		-	-
35 - 44 ..		-	-		-	-
45 - 54 ..		-	-		-	-
55 - 64 ..		3	-		1	-
65 & over		-	-		1	-
TOTALS		4	-		2	-

CASES ON REGISTER AT 31st DECEMBER 1957

Pulmonary	M.	35	F.	24	59	= Total
Non-Pulmonary	M.	8	F.	6	14	
TOTALS		43		30	73	

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1957.

	Total Cases	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	Cases admitted to Hospital
Measles	122	6	23	34	57	2	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	64	3	12	16	31	-	1	-	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	5	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-
Totals	196	9	35	50	94	3	1	-	3	1	1

TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS - 1946 - 1957

YEAR	Est. Population	NO. OF BIRTHS Legitimate M.	F.	Total	Illegitimate M.	F.	Total	Crude Birth Rate	NO. OF DEATHS M.	F.	TOTAL	Crude Death Rate	Infant Death Rate
1946	10,030	71	87	158	5	6	11	16.8	68	65	133	13.3	41.0
1947	10,380	103	90	193	5	9	14	19.9	64	56	120	11.6	53.0
1948	10,690	94	60	154	3	4	7	15.1	54	63	117	10.9	19.0
1949	10,650	69	62	131	6	4	10	13.2	67	67	134	12.6	43.0
1950	10,800	81	64	145	10	7	17	15.0	69	69	138	12.8	30.9
1951	10,690	71	67	138	4	1	5	13.4	65	69	134	12.5	6.9
1952	10,680	71	69	140	4	5	9	13.9	64	70	134	12.5	Nil
1953	10,830	56	71	127	4	1	5	12.2	56	64	120	11.9	15.1
1954	11,010	69	72	141	3	6	9	13.6	68	68	136	12.4	33.3
1955	11,100	71	70	141	2	2	4	13.1	65	68	133	12.0	20.6
1956	11,250	71	75	146	1	4	5	13.4	80	75	155	13.8	19.9
1957	11,410	73	65	138	3	6	9	12.8	73	66	139	12.2	54.4

SECTION III

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Hospitals

A comprehensive hospital and specialist service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board. Doctors can arrange whatever forms of treatment are needed for their patients in general or special hospitals, whether as in-patients or out-patients. Hospital accommodation of a private nature is available in certain circumstances, subject to appropriate charges. All types of cases are thus provided for - medical, surgical, maternity, infectious diseases, and those requiring sanatorium or mental hospital treatment.

Nursing

General District Nurses, Midwives, Health Visitors and School Nurses are employed by the West Sussex County Council to serve in the area. Lists showing names and addresses of these nurses may be seen at County Libraries, Town Halls, or Offices of local District Councils, and the Public Health Department, County Hall, Chichester.

Ambulance Service

Acting as agents for the County Council, the St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society operate the ambulance and Hospital Car Service in the county. Calls for an ambulance are made through the doctor or nurse in attendance on the case, or through the Police or public in case of accidents or other emergencies.

Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Eastern Road, Brighton 7 carries out all public health work for the Countil, including examinations of water, milk and ice-creams, ear nose and throat swabs, specimens of excreta and bacteriological examination of food.

General Medical and Dental Services

Local arrangements for these services are organised through the National Health Service Executive Council for West Sussex, 175 Broyle Road, Chichester.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Diphtheria Immunisation has again been carried out during the year by the County Council, and no cases have been notified. At the end of the year the position was as follows:-

Total number of children immunised:-

Under 5 years of age	115
5 - 14 years of age	5
Who received a third reinforcing dose ...	59

Public Health Act, 1936 - Section 172

No action has been taken by the Council under this Section which gives power to Sanitary Authorities to apply in special cases for a Magistrate's Order for the removal of tubercular persons to an Institution for isolation.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

It has not been necessary to serve any notice under these Regulations, which prevent persons suffering from Tuberculosis taking part in the production of Milk.

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47

It has not been found necessary to take action under this Section.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Unless otherwise stated, all clinics are held at the following address:-

Health Centre, Middle Road, Shoreham. Telephone: 2874

Infant Welfare

Tuesdays 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Social Club, The Twitten, Southwick.

Thursdays 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
All Souls Church Hall, Downsway, Southwick.

Ante-Natal

Fortnightly - Friday 2.30 - 4.00 p.m.
Community Centre, Southwick Street, Southwick

Family Planning

2nd Friday in the month, 2.30 - 4.00 p.m.

Orthopaedic

By appointment. Health Centre, Irene Avenue,
Lancing (Tel: Lancing 3128)

Eye

Friday morning - by appointment.

Dental

By appointment.

Speech Therapy

By appointment.

The following clinics are administered by the Regional Hospital Board:

Tuberculosis:

Wednesday - by appointment
Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea.

Venereal Disease Worthing Hospital, Worthing.

Males:	Wednesday 5.30 - 6.30 p.m.	Friday 4.30 - 5.30 p.m.
Females:	Wednesday 3.00 - 5.00 p.m.	Friday 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.

SECTION IV

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

There is an abundant supply of pure water from the Brighton Corporation. The supply is constant and all the houses in the area are served direct. The water is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action. No sample of the water supply was taken during the year.

Extensions of public water supplies during the year:-

Location	Length (yds)	Diameter (Ins.)
Greenleaves Estate Upper Kingston Lane	106	4"
Greenleaves Estate	26	3"
" "	304	4"

Drainage and Sewerage

The work of extending the new outfall in the sea has been continued during the year.

Public Cleansing

Arrangements were made with the Surveyor to spray the refuse collection vehicles with an insecticide spray whilst loading was in operation. The Public have been supplied with disinfectant powder for use in dustbins, when asked for.

Rivers and Streams

No action has been taken to check pollution of rivers and streams.

Tents, Vans and Sheds

No. of inspections	26
No. of complaints received	6
No. of contraventions observed	3
No. abated	3

Shops Act, 1950

No. of shops in the district	162
No. of inspections made	260
No. of defects found	3
No. of defects remedied	3

Smoke Abatement

No. of observations made	40
No of notices served	2 (informal)
No. of nuisances abated	2

Verminous Premises

(1) Council Houses

(a) Found to be infested with bed bugs	2
(b) Disinfested	2

(2) Other Houses

(a) Found to be infested with bed bugs	1
(b) Disinfested	1

Infested houses are treated with sulphur dioxide and gemmexane smoke, or sprayed with Roxem Insecticide, according to the circumstances.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

No. of premises registered under this Act	1
No. of inspections made	6

Schools

Number of schools in the district	5
Number with public water supply	5
Number with water closets:	
Separate pedestal	5

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

All complaints of rat and mice infestation received during the year have been investigated. The method employed in the destruction of rodents in the district is that recommended by the Ministry of Food, the P.3 trap together with poison bait, and a part-time rodent operator is employed. A free service is given in respect of private dwelling houses.

Factories Acts 1937 & 1948

Inspections made:-

(a) Factories with mechanical power	105
(b) Factories without mechanical power	41
(c) Other premises	7
Defects found as a result of inspections:-	NIL

There are 34 outworkers in this district.

Summary of Sanitary Works and Improvements

No. of inspections in regard to Infectious Disease ..	25
No. of premises disinfected after Infectious Disease ..	12
No. of verminous premises disinfested	4
No. of nuisances found to exist	61
No. of nuisances abated	54
No. of ashbins provided	39
Total inspections for all purposes	1939
Informal notices served	53
Statutory notices served	3
Number of summonses issued	NIL
Number of convictions obtained	NIL
Complaints received	61
Complaints found justified and dealt with	54

SECTION V

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

No. of Milk Distributors in the district	12
No. of these registered as wholesalers only	-
No. of these registered as retailers only	11
No. of these registered as both wholesalers and retailers	1
No. of inspections made:-	
(1) Cowsheds	6
(2) Milkshops	90
No. of inspections during milking time:	1
No. of licences granted by the Sanitary Authority:-	
(1) To bottle (a) T.T. Milk	-
(b) Accredited Milk	-
(2) To pasteurise milk	
(3) To retail milk using the designation:-	
(a) Tuberculin Tested	6
(b) Accredited	-
(c) Pasteurised	10
(d) Sterilised	9

Bacteriological sample of milk

Designation	No. of samples taken		No. complying with standard	No. failing to comply with standard
	By County Council	By Sanitary Authority		
Pasteurised	-	118	109	9

Meat and Other Foods

No. of visits to grocers and greengrocers shops: 209

The following were found to be unfit for human consumption:-

Tomatoes	22 Tins	Apples	84 lbs.	Oranges	311
Pineapples	73 "	Apricots	6 "	Lemons	20
Peas	2 "	Bananas	18 "	Grapefruit	2
Apricots	2 "	Grapes	10 "	Beetroot	24
Milk	11 "	Tomatoes	45 "	Squash(bottles)	9
Baked Beans	11 "	Greens	40 "	Sauce (")	3
Cherries	2 "	Peas	78 "	Cream (tins)	4
Herbs	6 "	Onions	84 "	Spaghetti(")	1
Soup	34 "	Prawns	8 "	Potatoes (cwt)	5
Oranges	4 "	Carrots	20 "	Cod Fillet(Stn)	3
Plums	4 "	Corned Beef	1 6lb. tin	Pork Brawn	1

SECTION VI

HOUSING

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1957

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	106
	(b) No. of inspections made for this purpose	338
(2)	(a) No. of dwelling-houses (including under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	46
	(b) No. of inspections made for this purpose ..	192
(3)	(a) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	106
(4)	No. of dwelling-houses (excluding those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	46

2. Remedying of defects without Service of Formal Notices

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their officers	59

3. Action under Statutory powers during the year

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	1
(2) No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notice	NIL
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority	Nil

B.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	Nil
C.	Proceedings under 11 and 13, Housing Act, 1936	Nil
D.	Proceedings under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936	Nil

<u>Housing Acts, 1936 - 1949 - Overcrowding.</u>

(a) i.	No. of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	Nil
ii.	No. of families dwelling therein	Nil
iii.	No. of persons dwelling therein	Nil
(b)	No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil
(c)	No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	Nil
(d)	Particulars of any case in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

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